

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**F A C T S H E E T**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ENTITY  
AGREEMENT WITH EMOTIONAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
DBA SHARE THE SELF-HELP AND RECOVERY EXCHANGE  
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2004-2005, 2005-2006 AND 2006-2007  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2)**

**REQUEST**

Approve and instruct the Director of Mental or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute a new Department of Mental Health (DMH) Legal Entity (LE) Agreement with Emotional Health Association dba SHARE the Self-Help And Recovery Exchange for the provision of a client-run, peer-to-peer toll-free referral service to self-help support groups.

The Maximum Contract Amount (MCA) will be \$206,939 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-2005 fully funded by \$173,606 of Sales Tax Realignment funds and \$33,333 of Department of Public Social Services California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (DPSS-CalWORKs) funds, which is included in DMH's Adopted Budget. The annualized MCA in the amount of \$422,560 for FYs 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 is anticipated to be fully funded by \$322,560 of Sales Tax Realignment funds and \$100,000 of DPSS-CalWORKs funds. The term of this new LE Agreement will be effective upon Board approval for FY 2004-2005, with two (2) automatic one-year renewal periods.

**CONTRACTOR**

SHARE is located at 5521 Grosvenor Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90066, in Supervisorial District 2, Mental Health Service Area (MHSA) 5 and has operated at this location for 12 years. SHARE is a recognized service provider in Supervisorial District 2 that has the respect and approval of DMH programs and the community at large. Over the past three (3) years, services provided by SHARE, to mental health clients, have been partially funded under a subcontract with the National Mental Health Association of Greater Los Angeles. The agency will provide essential self-help resources to Los Angeles County clients and others who need mental health services, yet cannot currently be accommodated by DMH.

Over recent years there has been an increasing recognition nationwide by mental health providers, clients, family members and other stakeholders of the valuable

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and critical role that peer support and self-help activities play in mental health clients' recovery and integration into community living. SHARE's mission is to help people in Los Angeles County pursue personal growth and empower people to change their own lives through the provision of a safe, non-stigmatizing place where they can find community information and self-help support. SHARE is located on the edge of several distinct cultural and socio-economic communities where people can come together for self-help groups conducted in English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Armenian, Russian, Hebrew, Mandarin and Farsi.

**INTENT**

Board approval is required to enter into a new Legal Entity Agreement with SHARE to provide client/peer support/self-help and 12-step meetings and activities for persons diagnosed with mental illness, dually diagnosed persons, CalWORKs participants, and other underserved populations in Supervisorial District 2.

With Board approval, DMH will continue to expand existing self-help and other client-run programs.

**JUSTIFICATION**

Over recent years there has been an increasing recognition nationwide by mental health providers, clients, family members, and other stakeholders of the valuable and critical role that peer support and self-help activities play in mental health clients' recovery and integration into community living.

SHARE is uniquely positioned to provide the services being contracted, as SHARE already has the database, clearinghouse, and groups in place.

**CONTRACTING PROCESS**

DMH has met the County's requirement for advance notification of intent to negotiate a sole source contract of \$250,000 or greater in its notification letter to your Board dated January 18, 2005. SHARE is a recognized service provider in Supervisorial District 2, that has the respect and approval of DMH programs and the community at large.